Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 CU-04 HA-05 MCT-01 AID-05 SY-05 IO-13 OMB-01 /093 W

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P R 150817Z NOV 77 FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7585 INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CONFIDENTIAL SEOUL 9669

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PINT. KS

SUBJ: SOME CAMPUS UNREST PERSISTS

REF: SEOUL 9622

- 1. AN ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIAL OF SOGANO UNIVERSITY CONFIRMED THAT ANOTHER STUDENT DEMONSTRATION TOOK PLACE THERE ON NOVEMBER 14. ABOUT 50 SOPHMORES WERE INVOLVED. REPORTEDLY, THE STUDENTS HAD BEEN GATHERED FOR PARTICIPATION IN MILITARY DRILL AS PART OF THE STUDENT DEFENSE CORPS PROGRAM, AND THEY USED THE OPPORTUNITY TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR CONTEMPT FOR THE STUDENT DEFENSE CORPS IN PARTICULAR, AND FOR OTHER CONTROL MECHANISMS OF THE ROKG IN GENERAL. THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIAL SAID THAT THE NOVEMBER 12 INCIDENT AT SOGANG (SEE REFTEL) WAS ALSO DIRECTED BASICALLY AGAINST THE STUDENT DEFENSE CORPS PROGRAM.
- 2. RIOT POLICE WERE SEEN MOBILIZING TO INTERVENE ON THE CAMPUS, BUT, ACCORDING TO SOGANG ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIAL, FACULTY ALONE DEFUSED SITUATION IN ABUT ONE HOUR. NO ARRESTS WERE MADE. SOURCE REPORTS CAMPUS IS FUNCTIONING ON NORMAL SCHEDULE BUT STUDENTS ARE CONFIDENTIAL

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EDGY.

3. SEVERAL SOURCES REPORT THAT MINISTRY OF EDUCATION HAS WARNED UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATIONS THAT SCHOOLS WILL HAVE TO BE CLOSED IF DISORDERS PERSIST. FACULTY MEMBERS HAVE BEEN ALERTED TO DO THEIR BEST TO CALM STUDENTS AND PREVENT SCHOLASTIC DISRUPTION THE CLOSING

OF THE UNIVERSITIES CAN BRING. IT WOULD SEEM LIKELY THAT THE SPORADIC CAMPUS DEMONSTRTATIONS ARE TAXING THE ROKG'S PATIENTCE, AND THREATS TO CLOSE THE SCHOOLS COULD BE TRANSLATED INTO ACTION IF THE STUDENTS TEST THE ROKG AGAIN.

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: POLITICAL SITUATION, STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS

Control Number: n/a

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Subject: SOME CAMPUS UNREST PERSISTS

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